

News Release

Office of Public Affairs
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS-EA
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Phone: 703-358-2220
Fax: 703-358-2245
<http://www.fws.gov>



April 28, 2015

Contact: Christina Meister, christina_meister@fws.gov, (703) 358-2284

Service Provides \$1.1 Billion to State Wildlife Agencies Benefiting Outdoor Recreationists, Conservation, Regional Economies

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced today that it will distribute \$1.1 billion in revenues generated by the hunting and angling industry to state and territorial fish and wildlife agencies throughout the nation. The funds support critical fish and wildlife conservation and recreation projects that benefit all Americans.

The Service apportions the funds to all 50 states and U.S. territories through the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration programs. Revenues come from excise taxes generated by the sale of sporting firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, fishing equipment, electric boat motors, and from taxes on the purchase of motorboat fuel.

“These funds are the cornerstone of state-based efforts that are critical to the preservation of America’s wildlife and natural resources,” said Service Director Dan Ashe. “But they are also the fuel for a massive financial engine that benefits outdoor recreationists, hunters, boaters and anglers, equipment manufacturers and retailers, and local and regional economies. Their value cannot be overstated in providing opportunities for the next generation of Americans to get outdoors, experience our wild places and learn the importance of conserving our natural heritage.”

Pittman Robertson-Dingell Johnson funds are distributed by the Service’s Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program. Since their inception, the programs have generated more than \$15 billion to conserve fish and wildlife resources and support outdoor recreation opportunities for the American public. The recipient State fish and wildlife agencies have matched these funds with more than \$5 billion over the years, mostly through hunting and fishing license revenues.

“The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program provides critical funding for conservation projects and outdoor recreation activities across this great nation,” said Assistant Director Hannibal Bolton of the Service’s WSFR program. “I can’t stress enough that the key to the program’s success is through our dedicated partnerships with State agencies, non-government organizations and many others.”

“It is thanks to this significant financial investment made by America’s sportsmen and women and the hunting, shooting sports, angling and boating industries that state and territorial fish and

wildlife agencies can deliver science-based conservation on the ground,” said Larry Voyles, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies President and Arizona Game and Fish Department Director. “The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program has made the difference between the survival and abundance of some species and it helps agencies, like mine, manage a vast estate of lands and waters and connect more people to wildlife-related recreation.”

Below is a state-by-state listing of the Service’s final apportionment of Wildlife Restoration Funds and Sport Fish Restoration funds for Fiscal Year 2015. To learn more about the Service’s WSFR program visit: <http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/>.

STATE

ALABAMA	\$25,562,321
ALASKA	\$51,951,630
AMERICAN SAMOA	\$2,502,516
ARIZONA	\$27,219,443
ARKANSAS	\$19,403,525
CALIFORNIA	\$44,134,573
COLORADO	\$28,516,034
CONNECTICUT	\$9,242,606
DELAWARE	\$8,232,316
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	\$1,155,056
FLORIDA	\$25,607,039
GEORGIA	\$25,236,594
GUAM	\$2,502,516
HAWAII	\$8,232,316
IDAHO	\$21,670,126
ILLINOIS	\$23,783,360
INDIANA	\$18,386,530
IOWA	\$16,502,569
KANSAS	\$19,984,814
KENTUCKY	\$19,623,501
LOUISIANA	\$22,570,941
MAINE	\$11,872,265
MARYLAND	\$11,140,015
MASSACHUSETTS	\$11,131,347
MICHIGAN	\$37,569,842
MINNESOTA	\$37,850,616
MISSISSIPPI	\$15,109,447
MISSOURI	\$29,783,609
MONTANA	\$29,781,997
N. MARIANA ISLANDS	\$2,502,516
NEBRASKA	\$17,608,725
NEVADA	\$19,340,531
NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$8,232,316

NEW JERSEY	\$11,131,347
NEW MEXICO	\$22,125,164
NEW YORK	\$28,927,341
NORTH CAROLINA	\$31,320,942
NORTH DAKOTA	\$16,004,762
OHIO	\$24,084,830
OKLAHOMA	\$25,729,133
OREGON	\$26,047,277
PENNSYLVANIA	\$37,974,470
PUERTO RICO	\$7,024,381
RHODE ISLAND	\$8,232,316
SOUTH CAROLINA	\$15,674,905
SOUTH DAKOTA	\$19,016,379
TENNESSEE	\$31,366,355
TEXAS	\$54,850,661
UTAH	\$20,944,045
VERMONT	\$8,232,316
VIRGIN ISLANDS	\$2,502,516
VIRGINIA	\$19,431,901
WASHINGTON	\$22,215,325
WEST VIRGINIA	\$12,088,070
WISCONSIN	\$36,479,149
WYOMING	\$19,662,264

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information, visit www.fws.gov, or connect with us through any of these social media channels: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Flickr](#), [YouTube](#).

